

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

First Named	
Inventor	: Andrew A. Goldfine
Appln. No.	: 09/787,497
Filed	: March 16, 2001
Title	: IMPACT ABSORBING COMPOSITE
Docket No.	: A351.12-0002
	Group Art Unit: 1772
	Examiner: William P. Watkins III

EXHIBIT B

Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary, pp. 728-729 (Merriam-Webster, 10th ed.)

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

absorption of an estate, a contract, or an interest in another, of a minor offense in a greater, or of an obligation into a judgment. 2 a : the act or process of merging b : absorption by a corporation of one or more others; also: any of various methods of combining two or more organizations (as business concerns)

me-rid-i-an \mə-'ri-dē-ən\ n [ME, fr. MF *meridien*, fr. *meridien* of noon, fr. L *meridianus*, fr. *meridies* noon, south, irreg. fr. *medius* mid + *dies* day — more at MID, DEITY] (14c) 1 *archaic*: the hour of noon : **MIDDAY** 2 : a great circle of the celestial sphere passing through its poles and the zenith of a given place 3 : a high point 4. a (1) : a great circle on the surface of the earth passing through the poles (2) : the half of such a circle included between the poles b : a representation of such a circle or half circle numbered for longitude on a map or globe — see **LONGITUDE** illustration — **meridian adj**

me-rid-i-o-nal \mə-'ri-dē-nəl\ adj [ME, fr. MF *meridional*, fr. LL *meridionalis*, fr. L *meridies*] (14c) 1 : of, relating to, or situated in the south : **SOUTHERN** 2 : of, relating to, or characteristic of people living in the south esp. of France 3 : of, relating to, or situated on or along a meridian — **me-rid-i-o-nal** \n'-ēl\ adj

meridional (n1591) : a native or inhabitant of southern Europe and esp. southern France

me-ringue \mə-'rāng\ n [F] (1706) 1 : a dessert topping baked from a mixture of stiffly beaten egg whites and sugar 2 : a shell made of meringue and filled with fruit or ice cream

me-ri-no \mə-'rē-(,nō)\ n, pl. -nos [Sp.] (1810) 1 : any of a breed of fine-wooled white sheep originating in Spain and producing a heavy fleece of exceptional quality 2 : a soft wool or wool and cotton clothing fabric resembling cashmere 3 : a fine wool and cotton yarn used for hosiery and knitwear — **merino adj**

meritism n [comb form [ISV, fr. Gk. *meros* part — more at MERIT]] : possession of (such) an arrangement of or relation among constituent chemical units (*tautomerism*)

mer-i-stem \'mer-ə-stēm\ n [Gk. *meristos* divided (fr. *merizein* to divide, fr. *meros*) + E -em (as in system)] (1874) : a formative plant tissue usu. made up of small cells capable of dividing indefinitely and giving rise to similar cells or to cells that differentiate to produce the definitive tissues and organs — **mer-i-stem-atic** \mer-əs-tō-'ma-tik\ adj — **mer-i-stem-ati-cal** \-tik\ adv

me-ri-stic \mə-'ris-tik\ adj [Gk *meristos*] (1894) 1 : SEGMENTAL 2 : involving modification in number or in geometrical relation of body parts (as variation in flower petals) — **me-ri-sti-cal** \-tik\ adj

mer-it \'mer-ət\ n [ME, fr. MF *merite*, fr. L *meritum*, fr. neut. of *meritus*, pp. of *merere* to deserve, earn; akin to Gk *meirēsthai* to receive as one's portion, *meros* part] (14c) 1. a obs : reward or punishment due b : the qualities or actions that constitute the basis of one's deserts c : a praiseworthy quality : **VIRTUE** d : character or conduct deserving reward, honor, or esteem; also : **ACHIEVEMENT** 2. : spiritual credit held to be earned by performance of righteous acts and to ensure future benefits 3. a pl : the intrinsic nature of a legal case apart from considerations of circumstance, jurisdiction, or procedure b : individual significance or justification

merit vt (1526) : to be worthy of or entitled or liable to : **EARN** ~ vi 1 obs : to be entitled to reward or honor 2 : **DESERVE**

mer-i-to-cracy \mer-ə-'tō-kra-sē\ n, pl. -cies [*merit* + -o- + -cracy] (1958) 1 : a system in which the talented are chosen and moved ahead on the basis of their achievement 2 : leadership selected on the basis of intellectual criteria — **mer-it-o-cratic** \mer-ə-'tō-kra-tik\ adj

mer-it-o-crat \mer-ə-'tō-krat\ n (1960) chiefly Brit : a person who advances through a meritocratic system

mer-i-to-rious \mer-ə-'tōr-ēəs, -'tōr-\ adj (15c) : deserving of honor or esteem — **mer-i-to-riously** adv — **mer-i-to-rious-ness** n

merit system n (1879) : a system by which appointments and promotions in the civil service are based on competence rather than political favoritism

merle also **merl** \'merl-(ə)l\ n [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *merulus*; akin to OE *ōsle* blackbird, OHG *amsla*] (15c) : **BLACKBIRD** 1a

merle n [origin unknown] (1905) : a bluish or reddish gray mixed with splotches of black that is the color of the coats of some dogs

mer-lin \mərl-in\ n [ME *merloun*, fr. AF *merilun*, fr. OF *esmerillon*, aug. of *esmeril*; of Gmc origin; akin to OHG *smirl* *merlin*] (14c) : a small compact Holarctic falcon (*Falco columbarius*) which has a broad dark terminal band on the tail and of which the upperparts are slate blue in males and dark brown in females — compare **PIGEON HAWK** 1

Mer-lin \'mərl-in\ n [ML *Merlinus*, fr. MW *Myrddyn*] : a prophet and magician in Arthurian legend

mer-lon \mərl-on\ n [F, fr. It *merlone*, aug. of *merlo* battlement, fr. ML *merulus*, fr. L *merle*] (ca. 1704) : any of the solid intervals between crenellations of a battlement — see **BATTLEMENT** illustration

mer-lot \mer-'lōt\ n, often cap [F] (ca. 1941) : a dry red wine made from a widely grown grape orig. used in the Bordeaux region of France for blending

mer-maid \mər-'mād\ n [ME *mermayde*, fr. *mere* sea (fr. OE) + *māde* maid — more at MARINE] (14c) : a fabled marine creature with the head and upper body of a woman and the tail of a fish

mer-man \-,mān, -mān\ n (1601) : a fabled marine creature with the head and upper body of a man and the tail of a fish

mer-o- comb form [ISV, fr. Gk. fr. *meros* part — more at MERIT] : part : partial (*meroblastic*)

mer-o-blas-tic \mer-ə-'blas-tik\ adj [ISV] (1870) : characterized by incomplete cleavage as a result of the presence of a mass of yolk material — compare **HOLOBLASTIC** — **mer-o-blas-ti-cal** \-tik\ adv

mer-o-crine \mer-ə-'krēn, -krīn, -krēn\ adj [ISV, fr. *mero-* + Gk *kri-nein* to separate — more at CERTAIN] (ca. 1905) : producing a secretion that is discharged without major damage to the secretory cells; also : produced by a merocrine gland

mer-o-mor-phic \mer-ə-'mōr-fik\ adj (ca. 1890) : relating to or being a function of a complex variable that is analytic everywhere in a region except for singularities at each of which infinity is the limit and each of which is contained in a neighborhood where the function is analytic except for the singular point itself

mer-o-my-o-sin \mer-ə-'mi-ō-sən\ n (1952) : either of two structural subunits of myosin that are obtained esp. by trypsin digestion

-merous *adj comb form* [NL *-merus*, fr. Gk. *-merēs*, fr. *meros* — more at **MERIT**] : having (such or so many) parts (*dimerous*)

Mer-o-vin-gian \,mĕr-ō-\'vīn-jē-ən\ *adj* [F *mérovingien*, fr. ML *Merci* vīngi Merovingians, fr. *Merovaeus* Merowig \dagger 458 Frankish founder of the dynasty] (ca. 1694) : of or relating to the first Frankish dynasty reigning from about A.D. 500 to 751 — **Merovingian** *n*

mer-o-zoite \,mĕr-ō-\'zō-īt\ *n* [ISV; fr. *mero-* + *zo-* + *-ite*] (1900) : sporozoan trophozoite produced by schizogony that is capable of initiating a new sexual or asexual cycle of development

mer-ri-ment \,mĕr-ē-mĕnt\ *n* (1576) 1 : lighthearted gaiety or fun making; **HILARITY** 2 : a lively celebration or party : **FESTIVITY**

mer-ry \,mĕr-ē\ *adj* **mer-rier**; **-est** [ME *mery*, fr. OE *myrga*, merge akin to OHG *murg* short — more at **BRIEF**] (bef. 12c) 1 *archaic*: giving pleasure : **DELIGHTFUL** 2 : full of gaiety or high spirits : **MIRTHFUL** 3 : marked by festivity or gaiety 4 : **QUICK**, **BRISK** (a ~ pace) — **mer-ri-ly** \,mĕr-ē-lē\ *adv* — **mer-ri-ses** \,mĕr-ē-nās\ *n*

syn **MERRY**, **BLITHE**, **JOCUND**, **JOYFUL**, **JOLLY** mean showing high spirits or lightheartedness. **MERRY** suggests cheerful, joyous, uninhibited enjoyment of frolic or festivity (a *merry* group of revelers). **BLITHE** suggests carefree, innocent, or even heedless gaiety (arrived late in his usual *blithe* way). **JOCUND** stresses elation and exhilaration of spirits (sing dancing, and *jocund* feasting). **JOYFUL** suggests the stimulation of conviviality and good fellowship (dinner put them in a *joyful* mood); **JOLLY** suggests high spirits expressed in laughing, bantering, and jesting (our *jolly* host enlivened the party).

mer-ry-an-drew \,mĕr-ē-ān-,drū\ *n*, often **cap M&A** [merry + An drew, proper name] (1673) : a person who clowns publicly

mer-ry-go-round \,mĕr-ē-gō-,raund, -gō-\ *n* (1729) 1 : an amusement park ride with seats often in the form of animals (as horses) revolving about a fixed center 2 : a cycle of activity that is complex fast-paced, or difficult to break out of (the corporate ~)

mer-ry-mak-er \,mĕr-ē-,mă-kăr\ *n* (1827) : **REVELER**

mer-ry-mak-ing \,ā-king\ *n* (1714) 1 : gay or festive activity : **CONVIVIALITY** 2 : a convivial occasion : **FESTIVITY**

mer-ry-thought \,mĕr-ē-,thōt\ *n* (1607) *chiefly Brit.* : **WISHBONE**

merry widow *n*, often **cap M&W** [*The Merry Widow*, operetta (1905 by Franz Lehár)] (1964) : a strapless corset or bustier usu. having garments attached

Mer-thi-o-late \,(,mĕr-\'thē-ō-,lāt, -lāt\ *trademark* — used for thimerosal

mes- or **meso-** *comb form* [L, fr. Gk. fr. *mesos* — more at **MID**] 1 : mid : in the middle (*mesocarp*) 2 : intermediate (as in size or type) (*mesomorph*) (*meson*)

me-sa \,mă-să\ *n* [Sp. lit., table, fr. L *mensa*] (1759) : an isolated relatively flat-topped natural elevation usu. more extensive than a butte and less extensive than a plateau; also : a broad terrace with an abrupt slope on one side : **BENCH**

mes-al-liance \,mă-zăl-yāns, -mă-za-\'li-ān(t)s\ *n*, pl. **mésalliance** \,yā-săl-,zăl-, -li-ān(t)-săz\ [Fr, fr. *més-* + *alliance*] (1782) : a marriage with a person of inferior social position

mes-arch \,mĕ-ärk, -särk, 'mĕ-, -särk\ *adj* (1891) : having metaxylem developed both internal and external to the protoxylem

mes-cal \,mĕ'-skal, mă-\ *n* [AmerSp *mescal*, *mescal*, fr. Nahuatl *mexcalli* mescal liquor] (1702) 1 : a small cactus (*Lophophora williamsii*) with rounded stems covered with jointed tubercles that are used as a stimulant and antispasmodic esp. among the Mexican Indians 2 a : a usu. colorless Mexican liquor distilled esp. from the central leaves of maguey plants b : a plant from which mescal is produced; esp: **MAGUEY**

mescal button *n* (1888) : one of the dried discoid tops of the mescal

Mes-ca-le-ro \,mĕs-ka-\'ler-(ō)dō\ *n*, pl. **Mescalero** or **Mescaleros** [AmerSp, fr. *mescal*, *mescal* maguey, mescal liquor] (1844) : a member of an Apache people of Texas and New Mexico

mes-ca-line \,mĕs-ka-īn, -īn\ *n* (1896) : a hallucinatory crystalline alkaloid $C_{11}H_{12}NO_3$ that is the chief active principle in mescal buttons

mesdames *pl* of **MADAM** or of **MADAME** or of **MRS.**

mesdemoiselles *pl* of **MADÉMOISELLE**

me-seems \,mĕ-ſēmz\ *vb* **impersonal**, past **me-seemed** \,vĕ-ſēmd\ (15c) *archaic*: it seems to me

me-sem-bry-an-the-mum \,mă-zĕm-brē-ān(t)-thā-mĕm\ *n* [NL, irreg. fr. Gk. *mesembrién* midday (fr. *mes-* + *hēmera* day) + *anthemion* flower, fr. *anthos* — more at **ANTHOLOGY**] (1753) : any of a genus (*Mesembryanthemum*) of chiefly southern African fleshy-leaved herbs or subshrubs of the carpetweed family

mes-en-ceph-a-lon \,mĕ-zen-ſēfō-läñ, -mĕ-, -zñ-, -sen-, -sñ-, -lāñ\ *n* [NL] (1846) : **MIDBRAIN** — **mes-en-ce-phal-ic** \,mĕs-en(zéf)-i-ka-lik\, -zñ(i)-, -sen(i)-, -sñ(i)-*adj*

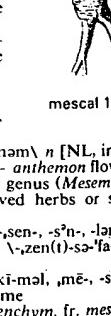
mes-en-chym-al \,mĕs-en-čim-āl\ *n* [G *mesenchyma*, fr. *mes-* + NL *-enchyma*] (1886) : of, resembling, or being mesenchyme

mes-en-chyme \,mĕs-čū-n, -kim, 'mĕ-, -sñ-n\ *n* [G *mesenchyma*, fr. *mes-* + NL *-enchyma*] (1888) : loosely organized undifferentiated mostly mesodermal cells that give rise to such structures as connective tissues, blood, lymphatics, bone, and cartilage

mes-en-ter-on \,(,mĕ-zen-ter-ō-,rān, 'mĕ-, -sen-, -rān\ *n*, pl. **-tera** \,tērā\ (1877) : the part of the alimentary canal that is developed from the archenteron and is lined with hypoblast

mes-en-ter-y \,mĕz-n̄-,ter-ē, -sñ-n\ *n*, pl. **-ter-ies** [ME *mesenterie*, fr. MF & ML *mesenterie*, fr. ML *mesenterion*, fr. Gk. *mes-* + *enteron* intestine — more at **INTER**] (15c) 1 a : one or more vertebrate membranes that consist of a double fold of the peritoneum and invest the intestines and their appendages and connect them with the dorsal wall of the abdominal cavity b : a fold of membrane comparable to a mesentery and supporting a viscera (as the heart) that is not a part of the digestive tract 2 : a support or partition in an invertebrate like the vertebrate mesentery — **mes-en-ter-ic** \,mĕ-zen-ter-ik, -sñ-ik\ *adj*

mesh \,mĕsh\ *n* [ME, prob. fr. MD *maesch*; akin to OHG *masc* mesh, Lith *mazgas* knot] (14c) 1 : one of the openings between the threads or cords of a net; also : one of the similar spaces in a network — often used to designate screen size as the number of openings per



A detailed black and white line drawing of a flower. The flower has a large, circular head with numerous small, radiating petals or stamens. It is attached to a long, slender, tapered stem that tapers to a point at the bottom. The base of the stem is surrounded by several small, curved, leaf-like structures.

mescal 1

erus, fr. Gk. *meros*, fr. *meros* — more at *parts* (dimerous)
meron adj [F *mérovien*, fr. ML *Mero-*us Merowig #458 Frankish founder of relating to the first Frankish dynasty 751 — *Merovingian* n
 ISV, fr. *mero* + *zo* + *-ite*] (1900) : a d by schizogony that is capable of initiation of development 1576) 1 : lighthearted gaiety or fun-celebration or party : FESTIVITY — est [ME *myrge*, fr. OE *myrga*, merge; ore at BRIEF] (bef. 12c) 2 : given full of gaiety or high spirits : MIRTHFUL y. 4 : QUICK, BRISK (a ~ pace) — mer-ness \mer-ə-nəs\ n

JOLLY man showing high spirits or sts cheerful, joyous, uninhibited enjoyment group of revelers). BLITHE suggests edless gaiety (arrived late in his usual lation and exhilaration of spirits (sing). JOYAL suggests the stimulation of up (dinner put them in a jovial mood), ressed in laughing, bantering, and jests-party).
 drū, n, often cap M&A [merry + An-erson who clowns publicly] rāund, -go-\ n (1729) 1 : an amuse- in the form of animals (as horses) re- 2 : a cycle of activity that is complex, out of the corporate ~) (n (1827) : REVELER 1) 1 : gay or festive activity : CONVIVI- FESTIVITY 1 (1607) chiefly Brit. : WISHBONE W [The Merry Widow, operetta (1905) pless corset or bustier usu. having gar- t, -lat\ trademark — used for thimero-

Gk, fr. *mesos* — more at MID] 1 : mid intermediate (as in size or type) *(meso-* fr. L *mensa*) (1759) : an isolated relation usu. more extensive than a butte x; also : a broad terrace with an abrupt mā-za'-li-on(t)s\ n, pl mésalliances més mis- + alliance] (1782) : a mar- tial position k\ adj (1891) : having metaxylem de- ial to the protoxylem er SP *mezcal*, *mescal*, *quor*] (1702) 1 : a zmsii with rounded roles that are used as sp. among the Mexi- less Mexican liquor leaves of maguey mescal is produced; of the dried discoid



mescal 1

n, pl *Mescalero* or cal, *mescal* maguey, nber of an Apache o n (1896) : a hallucin-H, NO, that is the uttions DAME or of MRS. ELLE personal, past me- it seems to me

zem-brē'-an(t)-tho-mom\ n [NL, irreg. zs. + *hemera* day] + *anemone* flower, v] (1753) : any of a genus (*Mesembry-* African fleshy-leaved herbs or sub- -fō-lān, mē-, zō-, -sen-, -sēn-, -lōp\ n mes-en-ce-phal-ic \-zen(t)-so-'\fa-lik,

al, -sep; -me-zōn'-ki-mal, mē-, -sēn-\ ; or being mesenchyme ie, -sēn-\ n [*Mesenchym*, fr. *mes-* + organized undifferentiated mostly mes- such structures as connective tissues, tilage 1, mē-, -sen-, -ran\ n, pl -tera \-ta-ra\ alimentary canal that is developed from hypoblast 1\ n, pl -teries [ME *mesenterie*, fr. 4L *mesenterion*, fr. Gk, fr. mes- + en\] (15c) 1 a : one or more vertebrate fold of the peritoneum and investi- ges and connect them with the dorsal a fold of membrane comparable to a cus (as the heart) that is not a part of or partition in an invertebrate like the -ter-ic \me-zōn'-ter-ik, -sēn'-adj.

MD *maesche*; akin to OHG *masca* 1 : one of the openings between the one of the similar spaces in a network in size as the number of openings per

linear inch 2 a : the fabric of a net b : a woven, knit, or knotted material of open texture with evenly spaced holes c : an arrangement of interlocking metal links used esp. for jewelry 3 a : an interlocking or intertwining arrangement or construction : NETWORK b : WEB, SNARE — us. used in pl. 4 : working contact (as of the teeth of gears) (in ~) — meshed \mesh\ adj

mesh-v (ca. 1547) 1 a : to catch in the openings of a net b : EN-

MESH, ENTANGLE 2 : to cause to resemble network 3 a : to cause (as gears) to engage b : to coordinate closely : INTERLOCK ~ vi 1 : to become entangled in or as if in meshes 2 : to be in or come into mesh — used esp. of gears 3 : to fit or work together properly : COORDI-

NATE

me-shuga or me-shug-ge also me-shugah or me-shug-gah \mə-'shü-gə\ adj [Yiddish *meshuge*, fr. Heb *mashaggā*] (1892) : CRAZY, FOOLISH

me-shug-ge-nər \-'shü-gə-nər\ n [Yiddish *meshugener*, fr. *meshuge*] (1900) : a foolish or crazy person

me-shu-work \mesh-wark\ n (1830) : NETWORK (a vascular ~)

me-si-al \mē-zē-əl, -sē-\ adj (1803) 1 : MIDDLE, MEDIAN 2 : of, relating to, or being the surface of a tooth that is next to the tooth in front of it or that is closest to the middle of the front of the jaw — compare DISTAL 2

me-sic \mē-zik, 'mē-, -sik\ adj [mes- + -ic] (1926) : characterized by, relating to, or requiring a moderate amount of moisture (a ~ habitat) (a ~ plant) — compare HYDRIC, XERIC

mesic adj [meson + -ic] (1939) : of or relating to a meson

mes-meric \mēz-'mer-ik\ also mes-\ adj (1829) 1 : of, relating to, or induced by mesmerism 2 : FASCINATING, IRRESISTIBLE — mes-mer-i-

call-y \mēz-'mer-ik\ adv

mes-mer-ise Brit var of MESMERIZE

mes-mer-ism \mēz-mō-, ri-zəm\ also mes-\ n [F, A. *Mesmer*] (1784) 1

: hypnotic induction held to involve animal magnetism; broadly

: HYPNOTISM 2 : hypnotic appeal — mes-mer-ist \rēz̄t\ n

mes-mer-ize \mēz-'mīz\ vt -ized; -iz-ing (1829) 1 : to subject to mesmerism; also : HYPNOTIZE 2 : SPELLBIND, FASCINATE — mes-mer-iz-er

n

mesne \mēn\ adj [AF, alter. of MF *meien* — more at MEAN] (1548)

: INTERMEDIATE, INTERVENING — used in law

mesne lord \n (1614) : a feudal lord who holds land as tenant of a supe- rior (as a king) but who is lord to his own tenant

meso — see MES.

me-so-carp \mē-zō-kärp, 'mē-, -sō-\ n (1849) : the middle layer of a pericarp — see ENDOCARP, illustration

me-so-cy-clone \mē-zō-sī-klōn, 'mē-, -sō-'sī-\ n (1975) : a rapidly

rotating air mass within a thunderstorm that often gives rise to a tornado

me-so-dorm \mē-zō-dōrm, 'mē-, -sō-\ n [ISV] (1873) : the middle of

the three primary germ layers of an embryo that is the source of many

bodily tissues and structures (as bone, muscle, connective tissue, and dermis); broadly : tissue derived from this germ layer — me-so-der- mal \mē-zō-där-mäl, 'mē-, -sō-\ adj

me-so-glea or me-so-gloea \mē-zō-glē-ə, 'mē-, -sō-\ n [NL, fr. mes- + LGk *glōia*, *glōia* — more at CLAY] (1866) : a gelatinous substance

between the endoderm and ectoderm of sponges or coelenterates

Meso-lith-ic \-'li-thik\ adj [ISV] (1866) : of, relating to, or being a

transitional period of the Stone Age between the Paleolithic and the Neolithic

me-so-mere \mē-zō-mir, 'mē-, -sō-\ n (ca. 1900) : a blastomere of

medium size; also : an intermediate part of the mesoderm

me-so-morph \mē-zō-mōrf, 'mē-, -sō-\ n [mesoderm + -morph] (1940)

: a mesomorphic body or person

me-so-mor-phic \mē-zō-mōr-fik, 'mē-, -sō-\ adj [mesoderm + -morphic] : the predominance in such types of structures developed from the mesoderm] (1940) 1 : of or relating to the component in W. H. Sheldon's classification of body types that measures esp. the degree of muscularity and bone development 2 : having a husky muscular body build — me-so-mor-phic \mē-zō-mōr-fik, 'mē-, -sō-\ n

me-son \mē-zän, 'mā-, 'mē-, -sān\ n [ISV, mes- + -on] (1939) : any of a group of fundamental particles (as the pion and kaon) made up of a quark and an antiquark that are subject to the strong force and have zero or an integer number of quantum units of spin — me-son-ic \mē-zän-k, mā-, mē-, -sā-\ adj

me-so-ne-phros \mē-zō-nē-fros, 'mē-, -sō-\, -frōs\ n, pl -nephroi \,frōi\ [NL, fr. mes- + Gk *nephros* kidney — more at NEPHRITIS] (1887) : either member of the second and midmost of the three paired vertebrate renal organs that functions in adult fishes and amphibians but functions only in the embryo of reptiles, birds, and mammals in which it is replaced by a metanephros in the adult — compare META-NEPHROS, PRONEPHROS — me-so-nephric \-frīk\ adj

me-so-pause \mē-zō-pōz, 'mē-, -sō-\ n [mesosphere + pause] (1950)

: the upper boundary of the mesosphere where the temperature of the atmosphere reaches its lowest point

me-so-pe-lag-ic \mē-zō-pä-'la-jik, 'mē-, -sō-\ adj (1947) : of or relating to oceanic depths from about 600 feet to 3000 feet (200 to 1000 meters)

me-so-phyll \mē-zō-fil, 'mē-, -sō-\ n [NL *mésophylum*, fr. mes- + Gk *phyllon* leaf — more at BLADE] (1839) : the parenchyma between the epidermal layers of a foliage leaf — me-so-phyll-ic \mē-zō-fi-lik, 'mē-, -sō-\ or me-so-phyllous \-lōs\ adj

me-so-pho-tó \mē-zō-fō-tō, 'mē-, -sō-\ n [ISV] (1899) : a plant that grows under medium conditions of moisture — me-so-pho-tic \mē-zō-fō-tik, 'mē-, -sō-\ adj

me-so-scale \mē-zō-skāl, 'mē-, -sō-\ adj (1956) : of intermediate size; esp. of or relating to a meteorological phenomenon approximately 10 to 1000 kilometers in horizontal extent (~ cloud pattern)

me-so-some \mē-sōm\ n (1960) : an organelle of bacteria that appears as

an invagination of the plasma membrane and functions either in DNA

replication and cell division or excretion of exoenzymes

me-so-sphere \-sfir\ n (1950) : the part of the earth's atmosphere

between the stratosphere and the thermosphere in which temperature decreases with altitude to the atmosphere's absolute minimum of about

-112°F (-80°C) — me-so-spher-ic \mē-zō-sfir-ik, 'mē-, -sō-, -sfer-\ adj

me-so-the-li-o-ma \mē-zō-thē-lē'-ō-ma, mē-, -sō-, -lē-\ n [ISV] (1899) : a tumor denoted by megaloma (as that lining the peritoneum)

me-so-the-li-um \-'thē-lē-əm\ n, pl -lia \-lē-ə\ [NL, fr. mes- + epithelium] (1886) : epithelium derived from mesoderm that lines the body cavity of vertebrate embryo and gives rise to epithelia (as of the peritoneum, pericardium, and pleura); striated muscle, heart muscle; and several minor structures — me-so-the-li-al \-'lē-əl\ adj

me-so-tho-rac-ic \-'thō-'rä-sik\ adj (1839) : of or relating to the mesothorax

me-so-tho-rax \-'thō-'räks, \-'thō-'rāx\ n [NL] (ca. 1826) : the middle of the three segments of the thorax of an insect — see INSECT illustration

me-so-tro-pic \mē-zō-trō-pik, 'mē-, -sō-, -trō-pik\ adj (1940) of a body of water : having a moderate amount of dissolved nutrients — compare EUTROPHIC, OLIGOTROPHIC

Me-so-zoic \-'zō-ik\ adj (1840) : of, relating to, or being an era of geological history comprising the interval between the Permian and the Tertiary or the corresponding system of rocks that was marked by the presence of dinosaurs, marine and flying reptiles, ammonites, ferns, and gymnosperms and the appearance of angiosperms, mammals, and birds — see GEOLOGIC TIME TABLE — Mesozoic

mes-quite \mēz'-skēt, me-\ n [AmE Sp. fr. Nahualt *mizquitl*] (1759) : any of several spiny leguminous trees or shrubs (genus *Prosopis* and esp. *P. glandulosa*) chiefly of the southwestern U.S. that often form extensive thickets and have sweet pods eaten by livestock; also : the wood of the mesquite used esp. in grilling food

mess \mēs\ n [ME mes, fr. MF, fr. LL *missus* course at a meal, fr. missus, pp. of mittre] to put, fr. L, to send — more at SMITE] (14c) 1

: a quantity of food; a *archaic* : food set on a table at one time 2 a : a prepared dish of soft food; also : a mixture of ingredients cooked or eaten together 3 c : enough food of a specified kind for a dish or a meal (picked a ~ of peas for dinner) 2 : to make a mess 3 a : PUTTER-TRIFLE (small boys and girls who like to ~ around with paints) b : to handle or play with something esp. carelessly (don't ~ with my camera) — often used with around esp. c : to take an active interest in something or someone (~ing around with new video techniques); also : INTERFERE, MEDdle (~ing in other people's affairs) (you'd better not ~ with me) 4 : to become confused or make an error — usu. used with up (got another chance and didn't want to ~ up again)

mess-age \mēs-āj\ n [ME, fr. OF, fr. LL *missus*, pp. of *mittire*] (14c) 1 : a communication in writing, in speech, or by signals 2 : a messenger's errand or function 3 : an underlying theme or idea

message vb mes-saged; mes-sag-ing vt (1583) 1 : to send as a message or by messenger 2 : to send a message to ~ vi : to communicate by message

mes-sa-line \mē-sā'-lin\ n [F] (ca. 1890) : a soft lightweight silk dress fabric with a satin weave

mess-an \mēs'-ən\ n [ScGael *measan*] (15c) chiefly Scot. LAPDOG 1

mess around vi (ca. 1932) 1 : to waste time : DAWDLE, IDLE 2 a : ASSOCIATE (don't mess around with admirals much —K. M. Dodson) b : FLIRT, PHILANDER (caught him *messing around* with my wife)

messeigneurs pl of MONSIEUR

mes-sen-ger \mē-sēn'-jər\ n [ME *messangier*, fr. OF *messager*, fr. message] (14c) 1 : one who bears a message or does an errand; as a *archaic* FORERUNNER, HERALD b : a dispatch bearer in government or military service c : an employee who carries messages 2 : a light line used in hauling a heavier line (as between ships) 3 : a substance (as a hormone) that mediates a biological effect 4 : MESSENGER RNA

messeigner RNA n (1961) : an RNA produced by transcription that carries the code for a particular protein from the nuclear DNA to a ribosome in the cytoplasm and acts as a template for the formation of that protein — compare TRANSFER RNA

mess hall \n (1862) : a hall or building (as on an army post) in which mess is served

messi-ah \mā-'sē-ə\ n [Heb *māšiāh* & Aram. *mēshīhā*, lit., 'anointed']

1 cap a : the expected king and deliverer of the Jews b : Jesus 1 2 : a professed or accepted leader of some hope or cause — mes-si-ah-ship \-ship\ n

mes-si-an-ic \mē-sē-ə-nik\ adj [prob. fr. F *messianique*, fr. *messianisme*] (ca. 1834) 1 : of or relating to a messiah 2 : marked by idealism and an aggressive crusading spirit (as a sense of historic mission —Edmond Taylor)

mes-si-a-nism \mē-sē-ə-nizm; mā-'sē-ə-, me-\ n [F *messianisme*, fr. messie messiah + -isme (as in *christianisme* Christianity)] (1876) 1 : belief in messiah as the savior of mankind 2 : religious devotion to an ideal or cause

Messias \mē-sē-əs\ n [ME, fr. LL, fr. Gk, fr. Aram *mēshīhā*] : MESIAH 1

messieurs pl of MONSIEUR

mess jacket n (1891) : a fitted waist-length man's jacket worn esp. as part of a dress uniform

mess kit n (ca. 1877) : a compact kit of nested cooking and eating utensils for use by soldiers and campers

mess-mate \mēs-,māt\ n (1746) : a person with whom one regularly takes mess (as on a ship)

mess over vt (1965) slang : to treat harshly or unfairly; ABUSE

\ə\ about \v\ kitten; F table, \ə\ further \v\ ash \ə\ ace \v\ mop, mar

\ə\ out, labchin \ə\ bet \v\ easy \v\ go \v\ hit \v\ ice, \v\ job

\v\ sing \v\ sit \v\ sit \v\ law, \v\ boy \v\ thin \v\ the, \v\ loot \v\ foot

\v\ vision \v\ k, \v\ ee, \v\ ee, \v\ see Guide to Pronunciation

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